



MSc Social Data Science

One Year Full Time
or Two Years Part-Time

Introduction

The MSc in Social Data Science is a one year taught programme with strong interdisciplinary features and components across social and computational sciences. It equips students with a range of social scientific, computational, informational, statistical, and visualisation skills, for curation and analysis of large or complex data that arise from human activities and interactions in the digital world.

Students will receive training in sociological analysis, as well as core coding and programming skills, allowing them to avail of emergent computational methods and technologies to tackle real-world societal challenges, and inform decision making processes. Students may opt to complete an internship as part of their studies. The MSc in Social Data Science is suitable for graduates of social science or computer science programmes.

Course Highlight

Leading centre for sociological research and teaching in Ireland

UCD School of Sociology is the leading centre for sociological research and the largest teaching centre for sociology in Ireland. The School has played and continues to play a key role in the development of sociology in Ireland. Among its current faculty are many of Ireland's foremost sociologists and social commentators.

Course Content and Structure

90 Credits
Taught Masters

=

60 Credits
Taught Modules

and

30 credits
Dissertation

or

30 credits
Internship and Project

Core modules:

- AI and Society
- Social Simulation
- Research Design
- Data Programming with R
- Sociological Thinking in the Digital Age

****A student may be able to substitute more advanced modules for specific core modules, where a student can demonstrate sufficient prior learning in those areas.**

Optional modules:

- Introduction to Programming
- Algorithmic Problem Solving
- Databases and Info. Systems
- Computational Thinking
- Machine Learning (Blended Del)
- GIS for Environmental Assessment
- Introduction to Statistics
- Policing & Social Conflict
- Health Illness and Society
- Organised Violence and Society
- Crit Race & Decolonial Theory
- Monte Carlo Inference
- Data Science in Python (MD)
- Machine Learning with Python
- Creativity & Innovation
- Spatial Information Systems
- Information Visualisation
- Recommender Systems & Collective Intelligence
- Advanced Computational Social Science
- Quantitative Text Analysis
- Programming for Soc Scientists
- Social Dynamics and Networks

Why study at UCD?



Graduate Education

12,000 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



Graduate Employability

Ranked no. 1 in Ireland in QS Graduate Employability ranking



Global Careers

Dedicated careers support; 2 year stayback visa to work in Ireland



Global Community

9,500 international students and 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries



Global Profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide



Welcoming Campus

Modern parkland campus with 24 hr security. Wide range of facilities, clubs, societies and supports



Career Opportunities

A wide range of different organisations including government departments, semi-state bodies, private companies in IT, finance and consultancy, as well as sectors such as education, health and social welfare are now exploring the benefits of combining large and complex data resources, including administrative data, for decision making and resource use.

The MSc in Social Data Science at the UCD is ideal for graduates who want to upskill and avail of these excellent employment opportunities. It is designed to enable individuals to combine their social science and/or cognate training with strong technical and analytical skills, and to exploit the wide range of digitised and digital data now accessible by public and private sector organisations.

Graduate Profile



Killian McLoughlin
MSc in Social Data Analytics

"Coming from a background in psychology, I chose to do the MSc in Social Data Analytics because I wanted to develop my social research and methodology skills in ways that incorporate new and exciting technologies emerging in the field of 'big data'. I feel that in providing for this, the course is unique. During my time at UCD, I have been exposed to a variety of computer science techniques for data analysis which I have been able to apply in complementary social science modules.

To my pleasant surprise, skills like programming have all been taught at a reassuring pace for a novice like myself. By the close of the first semester, I was already being called for interviews in well-known firms in sectors and for positions that would have been closed to me before embarking on the course.

I highly recommend the MSc to anyone who is interested in using technology to do social science in entirely new ways."

Applicant Profile

- Applicants will be required to hold a 2.1 Honours degree or equivalent in a computational science discipline, and to show evidence for strong interest in social science research;
- Or to hold a 2.1 Honours degree or equivalent in a social science discipline and to show evidence for strong interest in obtaining, or existing computational skills.
- Additionally, excellent academic references are required.
- This degree programme includes modules from Computer Science, which involves logical understanding and reasoning and therefore applicants must be able to demonstrate good evidence of algorithmic thinking.

Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on www.ucd.ie/fees. Please note that UCD offers a number of graduate scholarships for full-time, self-funding international students, holding an offer of a place on a UCD masters programme. Please see www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships for further information.

Related Masters

- MSc/MA Sociology
- MSc Comparative Social Change
- MA Race, Migration and Decolonial Studies
- MSc Political and Data Science

CONTACT US

EU Students

t: 353 1 716 8674

w: www.ucd.ie/sociology/contact

International Students

e: internationalenquiries@ucd.ie

w: www.ucd.ie/global

APPLY NOW

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at

www.ucd.ie/apply